Biomes

Grade 3

Name _____ Date _____

Remember: A **biome** is a big area with its own **climate**, **plants** and **animals**. Living things are suited to their biome.

Look for clues: temperature and rain tell you a lot about which plants and animals can live in a biome.

Earth's Biomes



A **biome** is a large area of Earth with its own kind of climate, plants and animals. Living things in each biome are suited to its conditions.

Deserts get very little rain. Cactuses store water in their thick stems, and camels can go for days without drinking. **Tropical rainforests** are hot and rainy all year. Toucans, sloths and tree frogs live there.

The **tundra** is cold and windy, and the ground below the surface stays frozen. Only small plants like mosses grow there. Arctic foxes and caribou have thick fur to stay warm. **Grasslands** are wide, open lands covered with grass and few trees, where bison, zebras and prairie dogs live.

Forests are filled with trees. Deer, squirrels and owls live in forests. The **ocean** is the largest biome of all. It is home to fish, whales and coral.

1. Check your understanding

Circle the best answer.

1. What is a biome?

(a) An area with its own climate and living things (b) A kind of weather
(c) A type of rock

2. Which biome gets very little rain?

(a) Rainforest (b) Desert (c) Ocean

3. Why do arctic foxes have thick fur?

(a) To hide in trees (b) To swim faster (c) To stay warm in the cold tundra

4. Which is the largest biome?

(a) The ocean (b) The desert (c) The grassland

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2. Where does it live?

Circle the biome where each living thing is found.

1	cactus	desert	rainforest	tundra
2	toucan	desert	rainforest	tundra
3	caribou	desert	rainforest	tundra
4	camel	desert	rainforest	tundra
5	sloth	desert	rainforest	tundra
6	arctic fox	desert	rainforest	tundra

3. Think like a scientist

Answer in a complete sentence.

1. **How is a cactus suited to life in the desert?**

Answer Key

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3. Why do arctic foxes have thick fur?

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2. Where does it live?

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3. Think like a scientist

Sample answer.

1. **How is a cactus suited to life in the desert?**

   A cactus stores water in its thick stem, so it can live where there is very little rain.